Copy Book

United States Frigate New york Sept.r 1802

I Certify that Mr Clark (Midshipman) his diseased with a chronic Complaint, (obstruction of the Liver) which produces the Jaundice and occasion at time Surfeits of bile, which keep him in a State of Invalidity and Renders him unfit for his Duty—

United States Frigate Newyork 28th Sept.r 1802

I Certify that Jacob Abbert Drummer in the Corps of marine on board the Said Frigate, being Captured is rendered unfit for Sea Service —

United States Frigate Newyork 28th Sept.r 1802

I Certify that William Dawling (Landsman) is Diseased with a Chronic Complaint (obstruction of the Liver) which produces Jaundice keep him in a state of Debility, & at time with fever, which renders him unfit for any duty.

United States Frigate Newyork 29th Sept.r 1802

I Certify that Ruben Allen (Landsman) on board the Said Frigate is diseased with a paralitic Complaint in his — Left arm & Leg, which has in part destroied the power of those Limbs, and Renders him unfit for Service —

United States Frigate Newyork 6th Oct. 1802

Mr. Jacob Morgain
Norfolk Sir

this is to acquaint you that Aza Dirburn & James Little (2d Seamen) are for Cause of Invalidity discharged from this Ship, which as Convalescents you may if you think proper place them at the Hospital, — your Hble Servt —

P. F. M. Surgn

United State Frigate Newyork 6th octobr 1802

I Certify that the under Named, owing to — Different Complaints & Debility are rendered unfit for the Service of the United States — viz.

Michel McKenley
John Negoire —
Thomas Mahew —
James Little —
Aza Dirburn —
Charles Negoire —
John Nicly — —

Landsmen

United States Frigate Newyork 29th Sept 1802
Crany island - Near
Norfolk

Honored Sir

Presuming that Informations in the line of my profession will be agreable Especially comming out of the United States Frigate Newyork as being the first Ship of the Government fitt out of the Eastern Branch and under your directions, being desirous of promoting the Good of the Service in making you acquainted with incidents and Causes which originate diseases in order when in our power to have them removed; I shall in this instance of the Newyork make it my duty to inform you that since We have Left Washington Navy yard I have had no Less from 15 to 30 Sicks on my Lists Chiefly with Diarrha & Dysentary, & the most of them of a very obstinate a nature hardly one of the men has Escaped it and many of the Officers have been ill with it, I think it then very highly necessary to acquaint you of this disaster and to inform you it is my opinion that it dos not proceed from any other Cause then that of the River water, which the Officers & Men were forced to drink in abundance while suffering With intence of heat in the River, and no other water or but very Little could be provided for them -

Therefore precautions ought to be taken when Vessells of the Government are either fitting out or Lay in fresh water Rivers to Correct the quality of such waters and to prevent the men from drinking it from a Long Said of the vessell in order to avoid as much as possible its dreadful effect, which When Epidemical Carey its Calamity through a whole Ships Company -

Company debilitate them to such a degree that near half of them are kept in a State of Invalidity and Consequently unfite for any hard duty during one Quarter month Cruise

Zeal and anxiety of our Captains, I presume in obidence to your orders (and their duty of Course) in fitting out their vessell for Service, I suppose prevint them from attending to any precaution & prevint those ill Consequences, but they are of a too serious a nature not to be attended to; therefore proper men ought to be Spared, Stationed or appointed to attend and Correct the water in Cleaning and Burning the Casks in Sid, and about half pint of Lime just in to one hundred Gallons of water which will be Sufficient to Correct its quality Keep it Sweet & wholesom; two have Died of the Dysentary, one of them having been Removed from the Navy yard Hospital to the Newyorks very ill—

Since our arrival in this River I have had Number Cases of Bilious fevers of a most Malignent a nature, Likewise of Intermitting and or ague fevers in abeundance, Diseases peculier to this Season and Climat, of the former two have unfurnately fellen Victim to its Rage, and I am sorry to say that, Shubal Croft, a Sergent of marine a very Good and Serviseable man is one, and a previts the other; our Loss of men to this day with that number, and Carseter of Diseases, I am happy to observe is as yet but four, & the number of the Sicks this day on the List is only fifteen, the most of them on Recovry; I have the Honor to remain with the highest Respect & Esteem Sir your Obt.

The Hon.ble Robt. Smith
Secretary of the Navy

United States Frigate New york 1st November 1802
at Sea on our passage to the Mediteranean

James Barron Esqr
Commander

Sir

Having made it a practice ever since I have the Honor of belonging to the Navy to lay at time before my Commander the different diseases that occur from time to time, & in my opinion of their Causes, I therefore think it proper while under your Command to continue that Line of Duty; and now have the Honor to insert for your perusal (which I hope will be satisfactory) an abstract List of them, taken from my Books of those diseases which have not Ceased to infest the Ship's Company from the 1st of Sept.r to this date, and such as have assumed a more Malignant & obstinate a Character, Leaving off that of a more mild one, I shall likewise observe that a number of them have been effected at the same time with a Complication of Diseases — viz.t —

	No. of Cases	
Dysentery & Diarrhea	53	occasioned by an immoderate drinking of the River water impregnated
Catarrhal fevers & Rheumatic Influenza	29	Do. by Laying Exposed to the Evening air on a bare deck uncovered
Intermit.t fever or ague	28	Do. by the same Causes, & that of the River water
Bil.s Malignt. fevers	12	produced by the season & peculiar to the Climat

N.B. a Number of other Cases which were too simple as to be noticed on my books & which were Easely removed by simple applications — I Have the Honor to be with Respect & Esteem Sir y.r Obl.d Servt

United States Frigate New york 3th. December 1802
at Mahon Minorca

Sir

Captain Barron having been informed ~~that~~ that you have absented your self from the Sicks — quarter yesterday and a part of Last night, having Spent your time at mahon with out Relief or — permission; has imposed on me as a ~~duty~~ to request — of you to Lay before him & in writing your Reasons. for so Doing

I am Likewise directed to order Mr. Higinbotom to Repair on Board of the New york by the Return of the Boat; I have the Honor to be

Sir your &c.

Doct. Starling Archer
Sicks quarter —
Leoretto

United States Frigate New York 30th Dec. 1802
at Malta

I Certify that the Under Named being Diseased with Chronic Complaints, it is in my opinion Necessary that they Should be Removed from the Ship to an Hospital on Shore their Diseases being of such a Nature as it ~~is~~ cannot without a Great Length of time be Cured on board viz.

John Nothingham - O. Seaman
Benj.a Gardner ------- do -
Edw.d Terrell ---- Marine -
Will.m Thompson Corp.l do -
John Mann ---- O. S. -
Aaron Mitchel ---- do -
John Lords ---- Corp.l Mate
James vanbeber ---- O. S. ... Jan.y 2d 1803

Your Hble Servt
L. S.M.d
James Barron Esq.r Comm.d

United State Frigate New York 14th Jan 1803
at Malta

Sir / in obedience to your order in the Case of Mr. Henry Vandike 3d Lieut. of this Ship, I have the Honor to inform you that after a close Examination of the wound which took place yesterday Evening, I find that a pistol Ball has passed through by the Exterieur part of his right thigh and about 4 inches from the Great trochanter Close and on the anterieur part of the femur, has directed its Course through the perinaeum and Left thigh, where it has been Extracted Skin deep on the Exterieur part, having not injured any of the bones, nor in my opinion any material part through which it has directed its Course; by its Great Extent at the not immediately mortal yet it may be dengerious — I have the Honor to be with the highest respect & Esteem

Sir your Obt. Servt.
P. S. M. Surgn.

Richard V. Morris Esqr.
Commander of the Mediterranean
Squadron
Malta —

United States Frigate Newyork 19th January 1803 at Malta

I Certify that Andrew Cockburn being diseased with a Syphilis Complaint and under a Syphilitic Treatment which Keep him in a State of Debility Renders him incapable of Receiving more then twenty five Lashes — L. F. M. Surgn

United States Frigate Newyork 19th January 1803 at malta

I Certify that John Jonson having been Repeatedly diseased with Diarhea and directly put in Confinement from Sicks quarter, has Left him in a State of Debility and Renders him incapable of Receiving more ten twelve Lashes — L. F. M. Surgn

United States Frigate Newyork 10th December 1803.

I Certify that the Bearer of this Will.m Eitman (boy) on Board the said Ship, while in the act of his duty fell from the Mizen peek on the Taffarel, by which accident has received a number of fractures of different characters which have Crippled him for Life

L. F. M. Surgn

Febry 21st. 1803

Sir

It has been the usages of most navies to make the Surgeon of a Temporary or provisional Hospital, do and perform the duties of a Fleet ~~Surgeon~~ Physician, When the General Health does not require his services on Shore - this, as well to prevent any officers remaining inactive, as to appriz the Commander in chief, of the Health of each Ship, in order that there may be no delay in procuring Sick Quarters, should their Number require such a measure Expedient, as also, to investigate the causes of any Epidemics in the Fleet or Squadron, so that it may be known, if the internal regulations, as it respects Diet, Cleanliness &c, particular Stations, in the influence of Climate, prevailing winds &c: or the particular practice of the Surgeon on board, has had any influence, in producing or ~~encreasing~~ increasing the same. So that the Commander in Chief may take the Speediest Measures, not only to check, but, prevent the recurrence of a similar Evil - His duties may be thus defined -

1st. He is to be Considered as the General Consulting Physician, and Surgeon, as well by the request of a particular Surgeon as by the order of the Commodore

2d. He is to attend all Surgical operations, when the situation of the Squadron will admit of it

3d. He is to attend all Medical Surveys, on either Medicine Hospital Stores &c:

4th He is to Examine the General watering places of the different Ships in order to analyse, and detect any noxious qualities, as also to point out the means of ~~Curing~~ Correcting it

5th He is to receive the monthly reports of the different Surgeons (in the annexed form) or weekly if the State of the Squadron should require it, from all of which, he is to form a General Report with such remarks as may to him appear proper -

I am Sir Your Obt Servt

Richard V. Morris

Capt. James Barron
United States Frigate New York

P. S. You will Cause a Copy of the foregoing to be furnished the Surgeon of your Ship in order that he may make the necessary Report

(True Copy)

An Abstract Report of the Diseases &c. which &c.

For the Month

Date	Place Where	Weather	Winds	Temperat of the atmosph	Diseases	Remaining since Last Month	past on the Sick List	Total Number
Febry 1st	at Sea	pleasant	W.S.W		Catarrhs & Rheumt	10	"	9
2d	"	"	N.N.W		"	"	"	8
3d	"	Cloudy & Cold	"		Catarrhal fever	"	1	9
4th	"	"	"		do do	"	3	11
5th	"	Clair & Cold	"		do do	"	1	12
6th	"	pleas & mod	W.S.W.		do & Rheumat	"	1	13
7th	"	Fresh Gale	N.W.b.W		" "	"	"	11
8th	"	"	N.N.W		2 Diarrhoas 1 Rheumt	"	3	13
9th	"	Strong Gale	N.W.b.W		Catarrhal fever	"	1	13
10th	"	"	"		Diarrhoa	"	1	13
11th	"	"	"		Catarrhs & Rheumat	"	2	15
12th	Malta	pleasant	N.W.		" "	"	"	10
13th	"	"	Variable		" "	"	"	7
14th	"	"	"		" "	"	"	7
15th	"	"	"		1 Intermitting 1 Rheumt	"	2	9
16th	"	"	"		" "	"	"	9
17th	"	Squaley	"		Rheumat	"	1	10
18th	"	pleas & Clear	"		Catarrhal fever	"	1	11
19th	"	"	"		do with Diarrhoa	"	1	11
20th	at Sea	Moderate	W.N.W.		1 Catarrh 1 Tumour	"	2	12
21st	"	"	E.S.E.		do fever	"	1	13
22d	Tunis Bay	fresh & Cold	E.		do & Rheumat	"	1	13
23d	"	Cold & Rain	N.E.		Catarrhal fevers	"	2	12
24th	"	pleasant	"		do do	"	1	13
25th	"	"	W.N.W		do do	"	1	13
26th	"	"	N.W		" "	"	"	10
27th	"	"	"		" "	"	"	9
28	"	"	N.W		" "	"	"	9

e prevailed on Board of the United States Frigate New York
of February 1803 –

Then & Now Disposed of –	Remaining.	
	31st. Decemb.	2.
	31st. January	10.
	28th. February	9.

Method of Treatment...

" on Duty – The Catarrhs having been the prevailing Complaints on this
" on Duty – Station, I Shall in this Case occupy your attention, and particularly
" " " " on those of a Phlogistic Character, in this Case I find that Blood
" on Duty – letting more or less according to the nature and hight of the Symptoms
" " " " diaphoretics mixtures, With Spt. Nit. D. & antimonial wine would
" " " " in the Cours of Twenty four hours Correct the diathesis. after –
" on Duty – having produced an Ease in the System, and an indication of –
" on Duty – the necessity of Expediting the Excretion of the bile & mucus of the
" on Duty – the Stomach & Lungs, I would then administer two Drams of –
" on Duty – Liniment. Tart. & about two Drams of antimonial wine with sufficient
" " " " to procure three or four vomitting & one or two down wards discharges.
" on Duty – this to Gather with Some mild Dilluent drinks a little warmed
" on Duty – & Sweeten, Such as Chammomil, Balm, or Barly tea would Safely
" " " " promote a gentle perspiration. The patient after this Excatment.
" " " " being Generally Relieved from that Phlogistic State, would Give
" " " " an opportunity of Giving him a Cathartic Community of Calomel
" " " " & Jalap; I have therefore observed this treatment, to be the best –
" " " " adapted in this disease, as in a few days the patient would –
" on Duty – Recover his health and be put to duty

" on Duty – Rheumatic Complaints have been likewise very troublsom
" " " " to Some & very often Complicated the Catarrhs, therefore in this –
" on Duty – Case I Shall include them with that disease, Except when by them
" on Duty – Selfs, the R. f. Sugr. internally administered the Embrocations with
" " " " Liniment. Soap, the flesh Brushes frictions and when Creates the –
" on Duty – applications of Blisters would Generally after awhile Remove them
" on Duty – The Diarrhoas on this Station have been of more mild and natu
" on Duty – and have often Subsided to a vomit, or mild Cathartics, if –
" " " " obstinate a few doses of Calomel from thirty to fourty Grains, would
often make a Cure

The intermittengs being Still less in number have Subsided in less then 6 or 8 days after Evacuants and Strong Doses of the Bark administered at the first of the paroxism

Copy

Report for the Month
of February
1803

United States Frigate New York 1st March 1803 —
Tunis Bay —

Sir

Wishing not to deviate from that line of Conduct which I have uniformly observed, and have made it a duty every since I have the Honor of belonging to the Navy, to lay before my Commander for his information the — Different Diseases which occur from time to time & in my opinion of their Causes in order when in our power to have them Removed; — I have the honor to inform you that since my last Communication dated 1st. Novemb last. on the same Subject, that the Diseases which at that time infected with Malignancy our Ship's Company have since early in december fortunately Subsided, and Removed that Terror of Contagion which we had Reason to Dread; — therefore I have the pleasure of of inserting for your Satisfaction a Statement of those — Diseases which have prevailed from 1st. of december last to this day viz

Month —	Dysent'y	Intermt.	Catarrals & Rheut —
in Decbr	2	2	18
in Janry	5	3	19
in Feby	2	1	22
Total	9	6	59

I have the Honor to be with due Respect
& Esteem Sir — your Hble Servt

P. S. M. Surg —

James Barron Esqr
Commd

United States Frigate New york 6th April 1803
Gibraltar

I Certify that Mr. Alexander Harrison — Midshipman, has been at several time severly — affected with Bilious Complaints, by which a Debility arising from that Disease has subjected him to it, to Gather with Rheumatism which — arise from heavy dews & unfavourable Weather will often — Keep him from his Duty —

P. F. M. Surgn

United States Frigate Nancy off Tripoli 1st of June 1803

Sir / having always thought it necessary and the duty of a Surgeon to lay before his Commander for his information the State of Health of his Ship's Company, the different & prevailing diseases which occier from time to time & to point out as much as possible their Causes in order when in their power to have them removed, a Rule which I have uniformly observed towards my former Commanders & Ever since I have the honor of belonging to the navy, & my last Communication to Capt James Barron being on the 1st of March last; I therefore would think it a neglect of duty should I deviate from that Line of Conduct; Consequently Sir I have the honor (& I hope it will be satisfactory) of informing you that, from that date to this, the prevailing diseases which have chiefly affected our Ship's Company were of a Catarrhal kind, & the most of them of a Malignant a Nature, mostly Complicated with Rheumatism, a few Slow, Diarrhas, Intermiting & 2 Typhus, but fortunatly of no Contagious a nature, & no death; and ad it not been for the unfortunate accident of the 25th of April, I should have the happiness of informing you that none have died

the Ship is kept Clean, Sweet, & wholesome

in these Seas, Particularly on this Coast the Dews are Exceedingly heavy & hurtful, it is then Necessary for the health of the Crew & the benefits of the Service that the officers in watch should keep the men perfectly awake in their night watches & not to suffer them to lay on a bare Deke, as they would be diseased with various Complaints Generally produced from those heavy Dews; I hope I have anticipated your wish & have lay the Statement to your satisfaction Viz

month	Diarrhas	Intermit	Catarrh & Rheum	Typhus	Slow	Hurt
March	1	1	15	"	"	2
April	2	"	24	2	"	2
May	"	5	29	"	7	9
Total	3	6	68	2	7	15

Your Obl Servt

P. J. M. Surgn

United States Frigate Newyork 21st July 1803
at Sea to naples

Sir / as Sundry medicines & other articles has been taken out of the Six medicine chests (put under my charge by Dr. Th.s Triffett) by the different Surgeons of the Squadron, I think it necessary that the number of chests should be Reduced to a Lesser Number in Repacking the articles to a better advantage & for their Safety, I have the Honor to be with Respect & Esteem, Sir /

your Hble Servt

L. S. M.d Surg.n

Isaac Chauncy Esq.r

United States Frigate Newyork 23.th July 1803.
at Sea to naples

Sir in Obedience to your Request of the 21.st Inst.t I have Caused to be Repacked the Six medicine chests under my charge, which by Repacking & Stowing it to the best advantage has Reduced them to the Number of three, in presence of M.r Porter 1.st Lieut & M.r Lovel Master, their Certificat, I have the Honor of inclosing for your perusal Likewise the List of the Medicines & other articles Contained in each Medicine Chest Nubered 1.2.3. I have the Honor to Remain with Respect & Esteem

Sir your Hble Servt

L. S. M.d Surgeon

Isaac Chauncy. Esq.r

United States Frigate Newyork 11th Novr 1803. at Sea
homeward bound

Sir

Circumstances making it the duty of a Surgeon to lay before his Commander for his information the prevailing diseases which occurs on board of the vessell under his Command, and in his opinion their Causes & in order when in their power to have them Removed. a practice which I have uniformly observed with my former Commanders

I therefore think it highly Necessary to inform you that from the 23th of october last, the Scurvy of a most malignant Character & with the highest Symptoms, has Broken out among our Ship's Company & increases dayly; — this Disease arising from a Source of Causes, such as an inactivity, a want of a Clear Circulation of air, Laying on a Dark Damp Deck, turning in to their Hamacks with Damp — Clothes, a long use of Salted provisions & Cooks Slush, a want of Greens & vegetables &c. &c.: (a Complication of Causes — too tedious to Enumerate) are such as will, united or — separated, originate this Disease, which in its nature is of a very Difficult Cure particularly at Sea, & which when Extended becames Epidemical & Carey its Calamity through a whole Ship's Company — Sixteen is the Number of this Complaint on this Days List. Some of them very ill

I have the Honor to Remain with the Highest Respect & Esteem — Sir your Hble Servt

P. S. M. Surgn

John Rodgers Esqr
Commander

from Capt. Isaac Chauncy

Copy of an order, in Consequence of my Communicat
to Commodore John Rodgers. on the 11th. of Novr. 1803. at Sea

Newyork at Sea 12th Novr. 1803. (at Sea homebound-

The Wind Sails are to be Kept up Constantly in Good weather
to admit a free Circulation of air; —

No man to be Suffered to lay upon the Decks or turn in
their Hamacks with wet Cloths —

No Person to be Suffered to make use of Slush in any
Way — the Officer of the watch willbe held Responsible
for the Execution of the above orders; the Commodore is
determined to take Serious Notice of any Neglect
thereof, as the Doctor has lately discovered that the
People are Suffered to be Idle Sleep upon wet decks!
turn in with wet cloths on — &c: &c. &c:

By order of Commodore Rodgers.

Signed — Isaac Chauncy —

The United States to Dr. P. S. Medard Dr.
To Sundries Supply'd the Sicks as Hospital Stores
pr. order of Capt. Chauncy, from the 1st. to the
20th. May — as follows — viz.

May 1st.	to 26 Eggs	$0.	25
	12 Oranges	0.	20
2d.	to 18 Oranges	0	30
4th.	to 48 do. & 84 Limons	1.	35
6th.	to 1 fowel	0	45
7th.	to 6 do	2.	40.
9th.	to 7 lb Mutton	0.	60.
	to Vegetables	0.	50
10th.	to 12 Oranges	0.	20.
11th.	to mutton & Vegetables	0.	50.
12th.	to do — do	0.	75
14th.	to Limon & Oranges	0.	58
15th.	to 2 fowels	0	90
16th.	to 9 do	4	14
	to vegetables & mutton	0.	50.
	to Eggs 40	0.	50.
	to 8 Doz. of Oranges	1	50
	to 4 do Limons	0.	50.
	to for washing Sheets	0.	76
17th.	18 Limons	0	18
	to 1 Camp Kettle	1.	10
18th.	to 14 fowls	5.	52
19th.	to 6 lb. mutton & vegetables	0	67
20th.	to 144 Oranges	3.	60
	to mutton & vegetables	1	10

190
15
950
190
2850

190
18
1520
190
3220
2470 6
549-14

30/8
240
30
540